a result of consumption of biscyits The case was investigated and the Chemical and bacteriological analysis of the samples showed contamination of bbiscuits with Chloroform bacteria. *Delhi Administration*

A case of alleged food poisoning was reported in the Press in the month of November, 1991. The Press Report stated that 14 persons were admitted to the hospital after consuming 'Balushahi.' The investigation revealed that it was not a case of food poisoning but a case of cheating by adding over-dose of sedatives in the sweet.

Food and Drug Administration, Gujarat

One incidence occured in Baroda on 15.9.91 affecting 6 persons. No sample was taken as probable cause was consumption of 'doodhpaks' after 24 hours from the time of preparation

Vayudoot Service for Himachal Pradesh

3045. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Himachal Pradesh regarding continuation and intensification of the Vayudoot services in the State to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the step taken or proposed to be taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Vayudoot is at present operating to Shimla, Kulu and Dharamshala in the state of Himachal Pradesh. For commercial and operational reasons, it is not possible to augment Vayudoot services to Himachal Pradesh, at the present juncture.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Cost of Homoecpathic Raw Material

3046. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tax on the raw material used in the production of homoeopathic drugs has been increased;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the details of the steps taken/proposed to check its price-rise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. There has ben general increase in the price of raw materials. In addition, in the 1991-92 budget, Special Excise Duty was increased from 5% to 10% ad-valorem. This increase would apply to all raw materials used in the manufacture of homeopathic medicines which are chargeable to Central Excise.

Under the Drugs Price Control Order 1987, Homoepathic Drugs are not controlled for prices.

Extension of Trains Between Kasganj and Kashipur upto Mathura

3047. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to extend the passenger train Nos. 103 and 104 running

between Kasganj and Kashipur and back upto Mathura;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Operational and resource constraints.

Scheme to Educate Girls

3048. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched several schemes for imparting education to girls between the age group of 11 to 18 years of poor families; and

(b) if so, the details thereon with financial assistance provided to each State during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) :(a) No. Sir, there are no Specific schemes only for girls of poor families n the age group 11 to 18 years. However, several measures have been taken for promoting education of girls which include recruitment of more women teachers for primary schools, incentives schemes, like distribution of free textbooks and uniforms, free education to girls upto class VIII in all Government, local body and aided schools, and upto class X in most of the States/UTs. In addition, 9% assistance is given by the Central Government for running Non-formal education NEF centres for girls in the ten educationally backward states, the remaining 10% being met by the State Government concerned.

(b) The financial assistance released to the States during 1991-92 for NFE Centres for girls is as follows:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Andhra Pradesh	21.86
Assam	8.41
Bihar	52.25
Madhya Pradesh	70.17
Orissa	8.13
Rajasthan	29.34
Uttar Pradesh	92.07
Manipur	1.62
Mizoram	0.05